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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/770,061	01/24/2001	Russell D. Homer	01 P 7429 US	7192

26161 7590 05/20/2004

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EXAMINER

NGUYEN, VAN KIM T

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2661

DATE MAILED: 05/20/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/770,061

Applicant(s)

HOMER ET AL.

Examiner

Van Kim T. Nguyen

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 24 January 2001.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-15 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-15 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 4.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

This Office Action is responsive to communications filed on January 21, 2001.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

Claims 1-5 and 10-15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Roberts et al (US 5,253,254).

Regarding claim 1, as shown in Figures 1-5, Roberts discloses a data processing method, comprising: receiving one or more clock-data streams (serial data and serial clock); dividing the one or more clock data streams into at least one clock stream and at least one data stream (parallel data and clock out); and synchronizing each of the at least one data stream to a common clocking domain (clock out) for processing (col. 3: lines 24-38).

Regarding claims 2, Roberts also discloses multiplexing a plurality of the at least one data stream for processing by a framer array (36, 44, 46), the framer array being provided offset a data path of the at least one data stream.

Regarding claims 3, Roberts also discloses aligning octets of the at least one data stream onto a multiplexed bus synchronized to the common clocking domain (col. 3: lines 52-58; and col. 4: lines 29-47).

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Regarding claims 4-5, Roberts also discloses demultiplexing (22, 48) the plurality of at least one data stream and recombining the at least one data stream and the at least one clock stream, comprising status and control information (col. 2: lines 55-58, and .

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

Claims 6-9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Yama et al (US 6,104,770).

Regarding claims 6-7, Yama discloses receiving a plurality of combined clock-data streams (SD); dividing the clock-data stream into component clock (BC) and data streams, and processing the data streams in a common clock domain (col. 6: lines 66 – col. 7: line 6); and recombining the component clock and data streams (PD; col. 1: lines 33-42), including a common bus (5) onto which the component data streams are multiplexed.

Regarding claims 8-9, Yama also discloses a framer state machine (8, 4, 3, 7, 6, 9) offset from the common bus adapted to align octets of the component data streams onto the common bus, and adapted to store a context of a last data stream processed and load a context of a current data stream (cols. 7-10, esp. col. 7: line 50 – col. 8: line 16).

Conclusion

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure:

Baroncelli (US 6,728,492); Farmer et al (US 6,715,093); Flake (US 6,665,359); Miyahara (US 6,625,240); Dunning et al (US 6,606,360); Chiu (US 6,587,954); Nakamura et al (US 6,385,213); Soda (US 6,359,908); Marengo (US 6,331,988); Seong et al (US 6,339,601); Kudo

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(US 6,256,326); Jin et al (US 6,173,380); Ryan (US 6,169,501); Humphrey et al (US 6,157,657); Aoki (US 5,963,602); Little (US 5,461,621); .

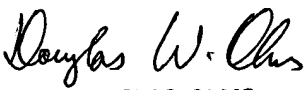
Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Van Kim T. Nguyen whose telephone number is 703-305-7692.

The examiner can normally be reached on 8:00 AM - 4:30 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Douglas W. Olms can be reached on 703-305-4703. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

vkn


DOUGLAS OLMS
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2600